How to Pay for Breakfast

Adding another meal service to the school day will increase overall expense to the foodservice budget, but this expense can be balanced with federal reimbursement and revenue from students.

Federal Reimbursement	Revenue from Students	
USDA provides reimbursement to schools	The school can provide breakfast free of	
for meals served based on student's income	charge to all students regardless of income.	
eligibility. Payment categories include free,	However, if this is not feasible, the food	
reduced-price, and paid.	service department will receive revenue	
	from students who pay either full or reduced	
Rates for 2010-11	price for a breakfast.	
Free 1.48		
Reduced Price 1.18		
Paid .26		
"Severe need" schools – are schools where	The maximum charge for a reduced-price	
40% of the lunches served 2 years prior to	breakfast is 30 cents.	
the current year were free or reduced price		
meals. The classification of severe need	The charge for a full price breakfast should	
makes schools eligible for additional	not exceed the actual cost of preparing the	
reimbursement with each meal.	meals minus any federal reimbursement.	
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Severe Need		
Rates for 2010-11		
Free 1.76		
Reduced price 1.46		
Paid .26		

Calculating Costs for Breakfast

If your school is already participating in the National School Lunch Program, the start-up costs needed for breakfast will be relatively small. Here is an example of how to determine whether or not breakfast will be a profit or loss for your foodservice.

Date: October 1, 2010 Number of Meals: 115

Expenses Actual Total Food Cost Total Labor Cost Total Supplies Cost Total Other Cost	2 hours @ \$13.50	80.00 27.00 5.00 0.00
1) Total Expenses		112.00
Revenue Paid Meals Reduced Price Meals Adult Meals Other Food 2) Total Revenue	25@ \$1.00 10@ \$.30 5@ \$1.50	25.00 3.00 7.50 35.50
Reimbursement* Paid Meals Reduced Price Meals Free Price Meals 3) Total Reimbursement	25@\$.26 10@\$1.18 75@\$1.48	6.50 11.80 111.00 129.30
Total Revenue (Line 2 + 3) Less Total Expenses (Line 1) Profit (+) or Loss (-)		164.80 <u>112.00</u> +52.80

^{*}These numbers are based on non severe need rates for 2010-11.

This example can be used to calculate several different scenarios. If your school will offer universal breakfast at no cost to students, there will not be a revenue source under line 2. All funding will be provided through reimbursements and school funds.

If your school is considering breakfast in the classroom, additional expenses may include funds for insulated bags and coolers and sturdy trash bins.